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TO:	September 0, 2002	
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FROM:	James A. Witherspoon	
MESSAC	RESPONSE TO R Aj Fi	RESTRICTION REQUIRESMENT ppl. No. 09/892,095 led: June 26, 2001 n re: Rankin, Sr.
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Attorney's Docket No. 43904/205179

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Rankin, Sr.

Confirmation No.: 9910

Appl No.:

09/892,095

Group Art Unit: 1775

Filed:

June 26, 2001

Examiner:

A. A. Turner

For:

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR CUTTING ARTICLES CONTAINING

AT LEAST A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF WOOD

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 8, 2002, in which the Examiner has required restriction between invention I, namely Claims 1-11, and invention II, namely Claims 12-15. Applicant hereby elects to prosecute the claims of invention I (Claims 1-11) and expressly reserves the right to file divisional applications or take such other appropriate measures deemed necessary to protect the inventions in the remaining claims.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

Jarnés A. Witherspoon Registration No. 36,723

CUSTOMER NO. 00826 **ALSTON & BIRD LLP**

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